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AMASH ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION

THIRD DISTRICT ART DISPLAYED IN U.S. CAPITOL

Grand Rapids, Michigan – Rep. Justin Amash announced the winners of the 2012 Congressional Art Competition for Michigan's Third District.

Christine Mourand's piece *What's Left* was named the grand prize winner and will be on display in the Capitol for one year alongside winners from other congressional districts. Christine will visit Washington, D.C., this summer for a reception honoring the winners.

Olivia Ezinga's *Accelerando* and Bethany Petrovich's *Life is Beautiful Chaos* were selected by Amash as Representative's Choice winners and will be displayed for one year in his Washington, D.C., and Grand Rapids offices, respectively. Pieces from Jasmine Bruce, Joshua Bruce, Brandon Klotz, and Chance Stover also received honorable mentions.

"I am proud to represent such talented young artists," said Amash. "I will enjoy Christine's painting every time I walk by it on my way to the House floor. And it will be an honor to have Olivia's and Bethany's pieces in our Third District offices."

The Grand Rapids Art Museum, Kent Intermediate School District, Kendall College of Art and Design, Portland Community Arts Council, and Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts served as sponsors and the judging committee. Amash's office received 49 submissions for the contest. All entries were on display at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum where Amash announced the winners.

The winning submission may be viewed on Amash's Flickr account:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/amashmi03/7106829849/in/set-72157629519492340>

All submissions are available here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/amashmi03/sets/72157629519492340/>

Each spring, the Congressional Institute sponsors a nationwide high school visual art competition to recognize and encourage artistic talent. Students submit entries to their Representative's office, and panels of local artists in each district select the winning entries, which are then displayed for one year in the Capitol. Winners are recognized both in their district and at an annual Awards Ceremony in Washington, D.C. Since it began in 1982, more than 700,000 high school students have participated.

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